(4) Intaglio printing on notes of Rs. 20/-, Rs. 50/- and Rs. 100/-(The notes of Rs. 1o/-, Rs. 5/-, Rs. 2/- and Re. 1/- do not have any intaglio printing).

The Central Bureau of Investigation also consolidates and circulates to all State Governments and Union Territories information relating to counterfeit currencies to facilitate detection of forged currency notes.

Demand of Jute Goods

696. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA :
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the despatches of jute goods from jute mills have declined in February last indicating a sluggishness in demand both in the domestic and export markets ;

(b) if so, what are the monthwise details of despatch of jute goods so far during the current year; and

(c) what are the reasons for sluggishness in demand and steps being taken to improve the situron?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : (a) to (c) Month-wise total production, despatches of jute goods from mills for both export and internal consumption and percentage share of despatches of jute goods over producti on during financial year 1985-86 are as under :—

(Quantity in '000 Tonnes)

Month	Production	Total despatches	percentage share of despatches over production
April, 1985	81.9	88.2	107.7
May, 1985	73.9	75.4	102.0
June, 1985	77.2	71.6	92.7
July, 1985	95.4	91.8	96.2
August, 1985	104.9	100.7	96.0
September, 1985	116.1	116.3	100.2
October, 1985	124.8	132.1	105.8
November, 1985	137.7	140.6	102.1
December, 1985	143.8	149.6	104.0
January, 1986	139.1	143.4	103.1
February, 1986	124.2	191.1	95.9
March, 1986 (Provisional)	132.7	129.8	97.8

It will bo observed from the above figures that total despatches of jute goods from mills had almost matched with production during 1985-86 (April-March). However, despatches particularly in February, 1986 were lower as compared to January, 1986 mainly due to reduced purchases of jute bags on DGS&D account, and lower offtake of jute cement and fertiliser bags on account of competition from HDPE woven sacks and for exports.

Toe Govenment is continuing to help the jute industry in domestic and international markets through various measures, which include :—

(i) Purchase of jute goods by Government (DGS&D) from jute industry 01 cost plus basis;

(ii) Go *y* use of ioo per-cent i, cement industry;

(iii) Improving the competitiveness of jute goods *vis-a-vis* synthetic substitutes through fisca and R&D efforts ;

(iv) Providing higher cash compensatory support (GGS) to dynamic sectors of jute goods;

(v) Involving STG in asssisting export of Garpet Backing Gloth (GBG) by forming STG-Jute Industry Consortium on 50 : 50 loss sharing basis;

(vi) Constituting a new Jute Manufactures Development Council to *give* boost to R&D efforts and export promotion etc.;

(Vii) Introducing a Scheme of buffer stocking of raw jute so as to ensure availability of raw jute to mills at reasonable prices.

Purchase of jute goods by D.G.S. & D.

697. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the purchase of jute goods by the D.G.S. &D has fallen progressively over the last two months; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b) The offtake of jute bags by D.G.S. & D. during March and April, 1986 is lower as compared to previous months. As is known, these jute bags are procured for packing Rabi 1986 crop by Food Corporation of India and other concerned State Gover indenting agencies. On the basis of advance projection of requirements indicated by these agencies and delivery schedules stipulated by them, it was decided with prior consultation with them to cover maximum quantity of jute bags by February, 1986 so as to meet urgent requirement of various indentors for packing Rabi crop which started arri-vingin the markets from March, 1986 onwards. Hence, there was 1 lower offtake of jute bags after February, 1986.

Production cut down by jute mills

698. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA :

SHRI SURAJ PRASAD :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that tlie jute mill industry has cut down pro-